The licensed conveyancers and sub-registrars should be held responsible to see that all previous documents relating to the property sought to be transferred were handed over to the transferee. The adoption of such a measure would clearly bring to light any encumbrances on the property in question. It would besides remove the futility of the encumbrance certificate which the sub-registrars granted at present.

Registered documents should be returned to the parties by anchal at their own cost if so desired.

The next suggestion was in regard to the language of the documents. The rule in regard to this as laid down in Section 12 of the Regulation was effete and based on conditions which existed 62 years ago when English-knowing clerks were not available. The defect in the present system was that it would not be possible to obtain an authenticated copy of a document in English from the sub-registrar's office. Rules 21 and 22 of the Rules passed under the Registration Regulation were also anomalous and they should also be altered.

Lastly, the Chitties Regulation should be so amended as to include within its purview amounts below Rs. 100 so that the hardships caused to the poor by the foremen of such chitties might be avoided.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Fernandez, if, when you gave notice of your subjects, you had also been able to give an indication of the nature of the defects and of the suggestions you were going to make, I should have been in a position, after consulting the Director of Registration, to give you what you would have regarded as a more satisfactory answer. As it is, I can only say that the far-reaching suggestions you offer will be carefully considered by the Government in due course.

45. Agricultural needs of Nanjinad.

MR. KANAKKU MATHEVAN PILLAI PERUMAL PILLAI (*Member, Agastisvaram taluk*) said that the main occupation of the people of Nanjinad was agriculture and that it was therefore necessary to pay very careful attention to the agricultural needs of the people. Firstly, therefore, it was necessary to give practical instruction to the agriculturists in improved methods of agriculture by opening demonstration farms at various centres and by appointing two demonstrators who should work in co-ordination with the local co-operative societies. Secondly, it was necessary to impart practical education in agriculture in all schools. Teachers also should have the necessary training in agriculture.

There was paucity of green-leaf manure, which was attributed to the extension of cultivation under the Kodayar Project. The ryots might be allowed to grow green-leaf manure on *porambokes* without any fear of fine or prohibitory assessment. They might also be allowed to collect, free of cost, from the reserved forests of Tovala materials for agricultural implements.

He then pointed out the need for roads and pathways along the expansive wet lands so as to facilitate the transport of manure and produce and requested that the channel banks might be rendered fit for cart traffic and the banks of irrigation tanks strengthened and widened. He also presented a sketch and pointed out where roads and pathways were needed.

He then dealt with the grievances of the salt cultivators which formed the subject of representation in the Assembly from its fifth session. The grievances related to the Tamaracolam and Rajakkamangalam *alloms*. They were (i) the low rate of *kudivila* (ii) maramath works and repairs and (iii) the storage system. In regard to the first, 10 As. for each maund of salt should be allowed for working expenses and the *kudivila* should be raised to two-fifths of the production as stipulated in the contract; as regards the second item, he wished to have the breaches closed and other works attended to; and as to the third item, he said that it should be put an end to. These suggestions, if adopted, would encourage the salt cultivators and result in larger production of salt which went down considerably.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Perumal Pillai, some of the subjects which you have mentioned to-day were brought forward in previous years as well. The general

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position has not changed appreciably except, for instance, in the matter of demonstration of improved methods of agriculture and so on. The number of such demonstrations has been daily increasing and the policy of the Government is to keep on increasing them.

2. You touched upon the subject of agricultural schools. You know there is a school at Alwaye which gives very fine teaching to the students. But instead of going back to the land, it seems that the students all want Government posts. So, it does not look as if we were attracting the right class of students to the school. Unless you and other gentlemen like you, who are interested in the cause of agricultural education, find the right class of students, I am afraid the actual benefit accruing to the country from the school must be inadequate. That being the position, I do not think we can go very rapidly forward increasing the number of agricultural schools.

3. The other points which you have taken up will be borne in mind, and you can rest assured that when each question arises, the Government will not neglect to do the needful.

46. Agriculture in Nanjinad.

MR. R. SIVASUBRAHMANYA NADAR (*Member, Nominated*) said that the State was not self-contained in its supply of paddy and salt in spite of the fact that they were the main occupation of the people of Nanjinad and most part of the country was under paddy cultivation. Chief among the reasons was the growing debility of the land brought on by insufficiency of green-leaf manure. The manurial strength of old fields was diminishing on account of percolation of water and the new fields brought under the plough had not enough of manure. Furthermore, large areas of land which were used for growing green-leaf were converted into arable lands under the Kodayar scheme with the result that there was utter dearth of green-leaf manure. Although the Government had in their order, dated the 14th December 1920, sanctioned the growing of green-leaf on lands appurtenant to the respective fields, the revenue authorities took proceedings against the adjacent owners for encroachment and imposed fine and prohibitory assessment. It was therefore prayed that the ryots should be permitted to grow green-leaf manure on *porambokes* without their being subjected to fine or prohibitory assessment.

There should be cart roads through expansive wet lands, along channel bunds and embankments of irrigation tanks, for transport of manure and for facilitating the development of agriculture. Specifically, the ryots' road from the Parakkai tank to Tamaracolam should be taken over by the Government for maintenance, and the following roads should be newly opened :—(1) from Vettimurithan Esakkikoil on the Cape road to meet the Anchugramam, (2) a road to Prantanericheri along the Prantaneri, (3) a road from the 49th mile of the Cape road to Devakulam and (4) a road from Azhakappapuram along the embankment of the Chenkalur tank to meet the Maharajapuram road.

More lands than could be irrigated by the Tovala channel have been brought under wet cultivation, so much so that scarcity of water arose even at the 27th mile of the channel. A tank at the tail end of the Tovala channel should therefore be constructed and the existing ones improved so that the necessary water might be stored in them for supply during the dry months. A responsible officer solely for the distribution of water from the Tovala channel should also be appointed.

The assessment on *pandarapattam* lands and lands held on similar tenures which was now very heavy should be reduced.

Lastly, the salt cultivation in Travancore was also in a state of decline. Percolation of fresh water and insufficiency of brine were the causes which led to it. That these hindrances to effective manufacture should be removed and the cultivators encouraged by raising the *kudivaram* to two-fifths of the salt produced and by putting a stop to the system of storage.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Sivasubrahmanya Nadar, in regard to the first point taken up in your representation, *viz.*, that of affording facilities for the growing of green-leaf manure, I may tell you that the question has been carefully considered by

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